(b) if so, the strategy that has been adopted by the Government to sell secular India abroad;

(c) whether the Ministry has identified anybody for this campaign; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI I.D. SWAMI) : (a) to (d) Publicizing various aspects of our unique composite culture and the concept of unity in diversity is an ongoing process and the Govt. of India has all along been taking appropriate measures in this regard. In order to put across the facts about the strong, secular and pluralistic foundation of India and drive home the fact that Indian society is pluralistic and tolerant and does not believe in proselytization, the Govt. has been making special efforts by involving Ministry of External Affairs, National Foundation for Communal Harmony (NFCH) and other agencies.

Atrocities against Dalits and Tribals

†3465. SHRI MOOL CHAND MEENA : SHRIMATI SAROJ DUBEY : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that incidents of atrocities against dalits and tribals have increased during last few years;

(b) the number of such incidents State-wise during last five years;

(c) the number of dalits and tribals killed in the each incident; and

(d) whether all guilty persons involved in these incidents have been arrested and punished; if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI I.D. SWAMI) : (a) and (b) A total of 27944, 25638, 25093, 25455 and 25562 cases of crimes against members of Scheduled Castes were reported from all over India during 1997, 1998, 1999, 2000 and 2001 and 4644, 4276, 4450, 4190 and 4121 cases of crimes were reported against members of Scheduled Tribes from all over India during 1997, 1998, 1999, 2000 and 2001 which shows the crime against SCs showed a marginal decrease while crime against STs showed a marginal decrease while Crime against S.Ts. showed a declining trend. The

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi

number of such incidents State-wise during the last five years is given in the Annexure. [*See* Appendix 198 Annexure No. 12]

(c) and (d) The information in respect of individual incidents is not maintained by the National Crime Records Bureau. However, two statements showing the number of persons arrested, persons charge-sheeted, trials completed, persons convicted and persons under trial under Protection of Civil Rights Act, 1955 during the years 1996—2000 and under Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes (Prevention of Atrocities) Act, 1989, during the years 1996-2000, are enclosed in the Annexure. [*See* Appendix 194, Annexure No. 12]

Involvement of NSG Officers in a Criminal Case

3466. SHRI VIJAY J. DARDA : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that three senior officers of NSG are alleged to be involved in the disappearance of a youth on 18th August, 1999 from Army custody in Jammu and Kashmir; and

(b) if so, the status of the criminal proceedings or court martial case against them after CJM has *prima-facie* held these officers responsible for the disappearance as reported in the media?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI HARIN PATHAK) : (a) Three Army Officers on deputation to NSG were allegedly involved in an incident of the disappearance of a youth on the intervening night of 17/18 August, 1990. These officers were later repatriated to the Army in the year 1992 after their completion of tenure in NSG.

(b) In 1996, the J & K Government moved the Central Govt. for sanction of prosecution. This was not agreed to for want of sufficient evidence. The State Govt. was advised to vigorously pursue the investigation and complete the same. It was also mentioned that if in course of such investigation, any evidence becomes available necessitating reconsideration, the case may be re-submitted for grant of prosecution sanction. Again, a similar request was received on 6-9-99 from the State Govt. explaining the facts and circumstances of the case. After examination of the case, the Central Govt. requested the State Govt. on 10-11-99 to complete the investigation and file the challan before the Competent Court and the question of prosecution or otherwise will